

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2756#3
2152

In re Patent Application of:

SHIMADA, N.

Serial No.: 09/506,215

Filed: February 17, 2000

For: NODE CAPABLE OF SAVING A THIRD-LAYER OPERATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Our Ref.: P/126-182

Date: November 19, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2756

Examiner: --



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 19, 2001:

Respectfully submitted,

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Steven I. Weisburd

Name of applicant, assignee or
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Date of Signature

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Claims 1 through 3, 7, 10 through 13, and 17 through 20
Prior Application:

1. Patent Application Hei 10-311320 (Official Publication
of Toku Kai 2000-138687)

[Claims 1 through 3, 10 through 13, 17 and 20]

The specification of the prior application describing a relay device for the IP packets (this is equivalent to the cut-through transmission device in this application) describes the fact that said IP packet is transmitted on layer 1 level (cut-through transmission). (Reference should be made to Paragraphs 0004 through 0010 and 0032 through 0035) plus Figures 7 and 8).

In connection with the cut-through transmission on the layer 1 level, moreover, whether to hop the packet on the next cell switch router or to drop it in the IP processing device in said relay device is something that should be decided on the layer 1 level.

Accordingly, the invention pertaining to the above claim in this application and the invention which was described in the specification in prior application are the same in substance.

